

# LEAFLET

## Partnerships for Supporting Biodiversity in Developing Countries

Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)



**Application deadline: 28/06/2019**  
**Funding period: 2020–2023**

**Note:**

These guidelines are published in German and English. Only the German version is legally binding; the English version is for information only.

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## Partnerships for Supporting Biodiversity in Developing Countries – 2020–2023

### Goal and purpose

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) receives funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to support the programme “Partnerships for Supporting Biodiversity in Developing Countries”.

#### Description of the goal:

In the last few years, biodiversity issues have steadily increased in importance in the context of the international development agenda. As research into biodiversity in Germany is very well developed compared with other countries, it is essential to exploit the vast potential of German higher education institutions in this field more extensively. The long-term objective of the programme (see Appendix 4) is to help towards the sustainable development and creation of efficient, cosmopolitan higher education institutions in Germany and the partner countries. It is intended as a contribution to sustainable development in line with the 2030 Agenda (SDGs 4, 14 and 15 in particular) and thus, ultimately, as a way of helping to conserve, restore and promote biodiversity in partner countries. In order to achieve this, the aim is to strengthen structures in teaching and research at partner institutions in the field of biodiversity, thus supporting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in partner countries. This means that specific offers in the field of biodiversity are anchored at the partner institutions and/or an interdisciplinary approach is taken to integrate aspects of biodiversity in existing offers that do not traditionally include biodiversity. Furthermore, new or already existing cooperation structures between the participating institutions should be established or consolidated and the programme should help German higher education institutions and research institutes make active partnership contributions to development cooperation and to raise their level of internationalism.

The following programme objectives (outcomes) for the partnerships for supporting biodiversity are derived from these long-term development policy aims (see Appendix 2):

**Programme objective 1:** Partner institutions offer study and qualification courses relating to biodiversity issues in a way that suits the local context and reflects current scientific knowledge.

**Programme objective 2:** The biodiversity topics are anchored in the research focuses of the participating institutions.

**Programme objective 3:** German higher education institutions and research institutes have acquired expertise in development cooperation.

**Programme objective 4:** Development-related professional networks are established between the participating institutions in the field of biodiversity.

#### Description of the purpose:

Based on these programme objectives, the following results (outputs) should be achieved within the scope of a project lasting no more than four years between higher education institutions or research institutes in Germany and developing countries:

- Structural prerequisites for study and qualification courses in the field of biodiversity are established
- Study and qualification courses in the field of biodiversity that suit the local context and reflect current scientific knowledge are jointly developed
- Teachers at the participating institutions are qualified in terms of the subject matter and didactics
- Research is conducted on biodiversity topics

- Individual contacts between participating institutions in the field of biodiversity are extended and consolidated

Partnerships that allow long-term institutional ties and lasting South–South contacts enabling dialogue and understanding are particularly deserving of funding. In this connection, it is desirable and useful to make use of additional DAAD funding instruments for cooperating with higher education institutions in developing countries (e.g. alumni and material support programmes) in order to create synergies.

Individual partnerships can focus on different areas within the programme goals. It is not necessary for every partnership to contribute to all the programme objectives; however, they must contribute to at least one of the first two programme objectives. The partnerships also have flexibility in how they formulate their objectives and how they achieve them; the project objectives must be consistent with the programme objectives. Accordingly, higher education institutions and research institutes are encouraged to develop their partnership projects based on the results of the framework programme and the programme indicators and to formulate measurable project objectives and related indicators. These must be presented in the application and the project planning overview (see Appendix 2 for details of the procedure).

The programme “Partnerships for supporting biodiversity in developing countries” is accompanied by results-oriented monitoring in coordination with the funding bodies. It is expected that the annual reporting by the participating higher education institutions will be in compliance with the requirements of this monitoring. The annual reporting should address the programme indicators listed in Appendix 2 as well as the project-specific indicators. Higher education institutions with funding commitments will receive all the documents required for this purpose when they submit the funding agreement.

#### Eligible measures

Measures that are eligible for funding are those that are consistent with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and related agendas (e.g. the UNESCO programme “Man and the Biosphere” and the Lima Action Plan, national and international biodiversity agendas and strategies) and contribute to the programme and higher-level objectives defined in the results framework.

Measures eligible for funding are

- Costs for travel and visits undertaken by German and international university teachers, academic scholars, students, graduates, PhD students and alumni
- Organisation of events (e.g. workshops and conferences)
  - Here, expense claims may be made for a fixed sum of €50 per day and participant. The lump sum serves to cover expenditure on food, drink and rental of premises. (See Appendix “Grant expenditure eligible”)
- Research and teaching
- Field trips
- Measures to develop digital teaching and learning materials, including the corresponding technical infrastructure
- Further education and training
- Development/revision and/or procurement of teaching/learning materials

Note:

The expenditure eligible for funding under this measure can be found in the “Grant expenditure eligible” appendix

For initiating cooperations, readers are referred to the Fact Finding Missions programme, for which there is an individual call for applications.

Grant expenditure eligible	See Appendix "Grant expenditure eligible"
Type of financing	Funding will be provided as deficit financing.
Funding period	The funding period begins on 01/01/2020 at the earliest and ends on 31/12/2023 at the latest.
Grant level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The maximum DAAD grant for four years is € 200,000, or <b>€ 50,000</b> per budget year for a partnership between a German and one or more international higher education institutions.</li> <li>In the case of multilateral cooperations (one partner in the North, two or more partners in the South, generally in different partner countries), the funding volume for South–South exchange may be increased to a total of € 280,000, or <b>€ 70,000 per budget year</b>.</li> </ul>
Subject area(s)	The programme is open to all departments that have experience with problems relevant to developing countries in the field of biodiversity and have or wish to develop lasting contacts with qualified partners in the developing countries.
Target group	Academic scholars, students, graduates and PhD students from Germany and developing countries and other participants in the field of resource protection in the developing countries.
Eligible applicants	German higher education institutions are eligible for application at institute or department level and academic research institutes represented by university teachers.
Submission of applications	The application must be completed in full and submitted by the stipulated deadline exclusively via the DAAD-Portal ( <a href="https://portal.daad.de/irj/portal">https://portal.daad.de/irj/portal</a> ).
Application requirements	<p><b><u>Application documents relevant for the selection process</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project application (please enter an informative project title in DAAD portal)</li> <li>Financing plan (in DAAD portal)</li> <li>Project description drawn up and signed by potential cooperation partner(s) (maximum of 10 DIN A4 pages, in German or English) (appendix type: project description).</li> </ul> <p>In addition to a concrete description of the project and measures, this should include the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Initial situation</li> <li>- The problem and justification in terms of development policy, including a description of the situation to date, where appropriate, and the current status of the partnership (in the case of follow-up DAAD applications, <i>Details of the previous project</i> should be given here)</li> <li>- Direct and indirect target groups, if applicable</li> <li>- Project objectives: Short description of the intended direct effects (outcomes) of the project</li> <li>- Project concept: The description should explain how the project contributes to achieving the objectives of the DAAD biodiversity programme. This should also include an explanation of which project-specific outputs are designed to lead to which outcomes. An explanation of who is to realise which project activities and when, in order to achieve the outputs. The outcomes, outputs and activities must be transferred to the project planning overview (Appendix 3). There, one or two informative indicators suitable for specifying and measuring project outcomes and outputs must be given (see Appendix 2)</li> </ul>

- Involvement of German and international academic scholars: description of the collaboration between participating German and international academic scholars, including a description of how support for young academics and student exchange is to be implemented
- Risks to project success: description of the framework conditions that support and hinder the project as well as risks that could have an influence on the success of the project.
- Project description (short version), (see Appendix) (appendix type: project description)
- Project planning overview (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- Specific justification of own interest in project by the international partner institution (appendix type: programme-specific appendices); if already signed, the partnership agreement relevant to the contract should be submitted prior to selection, and otherwise before conclusion of the contract
- Endorsement by the university management (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- If necessary, a calculation/estimate of non-accountable revenue and expenditure (appendix type: additional financial information)

The above-mentioned application documents relevant for selection (mandatory documents) are to be named in accordance with the specifications and submitted by the deadline in the form of the specified appendix type.

After the application deadline, the DAAD will neither request any documents nor take into account any additionally supplied documents or changes, including in the financing plan. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection procedure.

**Application documents relevant to the contract** (to be submitted prior to conclusion of the contract at the latest)

- Partnership agreement (cooperation agreement) between the participating German and international higher education institutions (appendix type: contracts/agreements)

If these contract-relevant documents are not provided by the application deadline, they must be submitted to the DAAD on request (if funding is granted) no later than before conclusion of the contract.

Note:

Funding is possible not only for bilateral partnerships but also for projects involving several partners/countries, if the goal of the project meets the programme criteria and the benefits of the project are clear in terms of development policy.

Application deadline

**The application deadline is 28 June 2019.**

## Selection procedure

The decision regarding the projects to be funded and the scope of the funding is made by a selection committee appointed by the DAAD, comprising external academic scholars with specific experience of cooperation with developing countries and taking into account the criteria specified above and the available funding resources.

Applications are assessed according to form- and content-related criteria, with special consideration of relevance to development policy and outcome-orientation of the project concept and planning. **Content-related criteria are derived from the programme goals and indicators described in the results framework.** Measures that are sustainable and designed to conserve resources are particularly deserving of funding.

### Selection criteria:

- **Subject-specific relevance and quality of the project**
  - Relevance to biodiversity: need and added value are clear
  - Subject-specific expertise of the applicants
  - Previous experience of German project managers regarding projects in, or target groups from, developing countries
  - Experience of German project managers in managing international projects
  - Realisability of project objectives with planned measures within the scheduled period
  - Project concept is balanced and covers various different areas
  - Suitable and balanced cost calculation: Personnel resources should generally not exceed 25% of the total expenditure applied for per respective budget year (see Appendix 1).
- **Project relevance to development policy**
  - Consideration of principles of development cooperation: planning, design and execution are oriented to the needs of the partner higher education institution(s) and conducted together
  - Plausible justification of how the project can generally contribute to the development of the partner institution and/or partner country through its subject-specific and regional orientation.
- **Relation to results framework of programme and results-oriented project planning:**
  - Clear relation of the design or effect logic of the project to the results framework of the programme and objectives specified therein
  - Formulation of suitable indicators permitting results-oriented monitoring of the project
- **Balance of cooperation measures**
  - Agreement and collaboration of participating cooperation partners
  - Own contribution of the German and international higher education institutions/partner(s)
  - Integration and exchange of students and academic scholars on both sides
- **Sustainability**
  - Networking with other higher education institutions/partners and stakeholders in the region, South–South partnerships

Establishment of sustainable cooperation structures that remain beyond the funding period.

**Contact**

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**Appendices**

1. Grant expenditure eligible
2. Guide to results-oriented monitoring
3. Project planning overview
4. OECD DAC list
5. Endorsement of application by German university management
6. Project description template (short version)

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